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ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 AIS-00 HA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SPRS-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /076 W
----------129644 230941Z /22

P 230915Z DEC 81
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0751
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
SA CINCUNC KS
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//EJ-IS
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PEPR PINT SHUM JA KS
SUBJECT: KIM DAE JUNG CASE:
- ANTI-JAPANESE CAMPAIGN PERSISTS
REF: (A) SEOUL 15897, (B) SEOUL 15883, (C) SEOUL 15809

1. ALTHOUGH DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS (FORMATION OF NEW POLITICAL PARTIES) HAVE RECEIVED HEAVY LOCAL PRESS ATTENTION OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS, THE ANTI-JAPANESE CAMPAIGN CONTINUES. THREE ANTI-JAPANESE RALLIES WERE HELD IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY ON DECEMBER 2. MOST PAPERS HAVE CARRIED ARTICLES EXPRESSING DOUBT ABOUT RETURNING JAPANESE AMBASSADOR SUNOBE'S ASSURANCES OF GOJ GOOD INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE ROK IN VIEW OF CONTINUED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN REGARDING KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) BY GOJ LEADERS.

2. EDITORIAL REACTION REMAINS HIGHLY CRITICAL. A KOREA

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HERALD EDITORIAL DECEMBER 3 EXPRESSES IRRITATION OVER AMBASSADOR SUNOBE'S ASSURANCES AND DECLARES THAT THE CURRENT STRAIN IN ROK-JAPANESE RELATIONS WILL NOT BE REMOVED UNTIL JAPAN CEASES TO REGARD THE KIM CASE AS A SUBJECT WHICH "IT IS ENTITLED TO MEDDLE IN." THE EDITORIAL FINDS IT "ABSURD" THAT THE JAPANESE ONLY TALK OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF KIM ALONE WHILE IGNORING THE NEGLECTED HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE 702,000 KOREAN RESIDENTS IN JAPAN AND CONCLUDES WITH A CALL FOR THE JAPANESE TO DISCARD THEIR OLD COLONIAL ATTITUDE TOWARD KOREA.

3. WORKING LEVEL MOFA OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR JAPANESE AFFAIRS CONTINUES TO ASSERT THAT BOTH THE JAPANESE AND ROK FOREIGN MINISTRIES ARE WORKING TO REDUCE JAPANESE-KOREAN TENSIONS. HOWEVER, HE REMAINS DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT ACTIONS BY ANTI-ROK GROUPS IN JAPAN MAY EXACERBATE CURRENT WIDESPREAD ANTI-JAPANESE MOOD OF THE ROK

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